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Wainford Rural District

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1941

Nobbs and Goate, Printers, Beccles and Loddon

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AS TO THE

Sanitary Conditions of Wainford Rural District

FOR THE YEAR 1941.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council of Wainford Rural District.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1941, in the shortened form authorised during the war.

STATISTICS.

Area. 44,871 acres.

Population. 6,370.

Inhabited Houses. 1,876.

Rateable Value. £14,318.

Sum raised by a Penny Rate. £63.

Births.

	M.	F.	*Total.*	
Live Legitimate	61	51	118	Birth-rate per 1000, 18·5.
,, Illegitimate	2	4		(Rate for England, 14·2).

Still Births.

Legitimate	1	—	1	Rate per 1000, ·15.
Illegitimate	—	—		(Rate for England, ·51).

Deaths.

	M.	F.	*Total.*	
All causes	49	34	83	Rate per 1000, 13·0. (Rate for England, 12·9).
Infantile Mortality, (deaths under 1 year)				
Legitimate	5	1	6	Rate per 1000 live births, 48·3. (Rate for England, 59·).
Illegitimate	—	—		

No deaths occurred from Whooping Cough, Diarrhœe (under two), or puerperal causes.

The areal comparability is not used this year owing to the movements of the population and "the uneven incidence of war deaths."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Ages	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	*Total*	*Admitted Hospital.*
Measles ...	6	14	16	14	19	100	53	18	7	3	2		252	
Whooping Cough	2		1			6							9	2
Scarlet Fever ...					1	4	2						7	3
Pneumonia ...		1	1		1			1		1	3		8	1
A.P. Myelitis ...									1				1	1
Erysipelas ...												1	1	
													278	7

The only noteworthy feature was the Measles epidemic of the first half of the year, which ceased with unusual suddenness after June.

Two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia occurred, with recovery.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases. 2 Pulmonary males of 45 and 55.
1 Non-pulmonary female of 25.

Deaths. 2 Pulmonary males of 35 and 45.
1 Pulmonary female of 29.

Ten cases were on the register at the end of the year. Notification of all infectious diseases is satisfactory.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M	F		M	F
Tuberculosis	2	1	Pneumonia	2	1
Syphilis	1	—	Ulcer of stomach ...	1	—
Influenza	1	1	Other digestive ...	2	1
Measles	1	—	Nephritis	—	1
A.P. Myelitis	—	1	Premature birth ...	2	—
Cancer	6	8	Birth conditions ...	2	—
Diabetes	1	—	Suicide	1	—
Stroke	3	2	Road traffic	2	—
Heart disease	11	12	Other violence ...	4	1
Other circulatory ...	1	2	Other causes	3	3
Bronchitis	3	—			

Cancer is further classified into:—

	M	F		M	F
Uterus	—	1	Breast	—	2
Stomach	2	—	Other sites	4	5

WATER.

Copies of tests are supplied me and have been satisfactory.

HOUSING.

Licencing of condemned houses was permitted during the year. The owner is not given any respite beyond the war period so that such houses will be at once available for future re-housing programmes.

DIPHTHERIA.

Inoculation was the most successful and valuable piece of Public Health progress for some years. Toxoid was supplied free by the Ministry, figures of school children and those under 5 were supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health and the work done by the Medical Officer of Health. Thus the expense falling on the District was negligible. Its success may be judged by the figures: 80% of school children and 30% of those under 5 were fully done, and another 8% received one dose.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

The establishments generally remain the same. The position of the smaller villages was reviewed as it is now thought desirable that all should have some sort of service. The response was encouraging, many people were trained in first aid and the villages subscribed generously for equipment. The result is that, of your 33 parishes, all but five have a First Aid Point, and the remainder will, I hope, be completed in 1942.

I acknowledge here, gratefully, the help of Dr. Grantham-Hill who, as a Home Guard Medical Officer, lectured to and organised points that I should have found impossible to cover in my time. The area around Beccles in particular owes it all to him.

HUBERT PEDLER,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following Report for the year ending 31st December, 1941.

Systematic inspection of the district has been carried out throughout the year, and complaints of nuisances received have had immediate attention.

HOUSING.

In spite of war conditions, eight new houses have been erected by the Council during this period, six at Stoven and two at Worlingham. Modification in construction had to be adopted, but nevertheless the soundness of the building was not affected.

One house was erected by private enterprise, and one other was re-constructed to the satisfaction of the Council.

One owner of a condemned cottage was granted a licence to occupy in respect of a farm-worker.

General. The housing situation in the area is bad, a fact which necessitated the limited repair of more than twenty condemned cottages for the housing of evacuees.

WAR DAMAGE.

The provision made for repairing war damage has proved adequate; repairs have been commenced on cottage or house the day following the event, or in some cases, on the same day.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

The standard of these buildings continues to improve and many cowsheds have been adapted to meet the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

All cases of infectious disease have been visited, investigated and the disinfection of premises and effects carried out.

SCAVENGING.

The collection of refuse in the parishes of North Cove-Worlingham and Holton respectively has been carried out in a satisfactory manner. No complaints have been received and it is hoped to extend this service after the present emergency.

The Council have accepted a tender to ensure the periodical destruction of rats at the dump.

NUISANCES.

Only two statutory notices have been served, all other cases have been dealt with in an informal manner including the removal of three caravans from the district.

WATER SUPPLY.

No new water supplies have been provided by the Council; several wells and bores have been sunk by private enterprise, some with assistance. Sampling of private and public water supply has been carried out.

DECONTAMINATION OF FOODSTUFFS.

A scheme for the decontamination of foodstuffs has been completed in conjunction with neighbouring authorities, and it may be considered that adequate provision has been made in the event of gas attack in this area.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. W. ELLIS, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector.